

**GUIDE FOR
INTERNATIONAL MILITARY
STUDENTS**

**INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STUDENT OFFICE
(IMSO)**

**UNITED STATES ARMY
JOHN F. KENNEDY
SPECIAL WARFARE CENTER AND SCHOOL
(USAJFKSWCS)**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
CHAPTER 1	<i>HISTORY AND MISSION</i>	4
CHAPTER 2	<i>MISSION</i>	
	US Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center & School	6
CHAPTER 3	<i>INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STUDENT OFFICE</i>	
	Mission	7
	Functions	7
	Services	7
CHAPTER 4	<i>PREPARATION AND TRAVEL</i>	
	General	8
	Invitational Travel Orders	8
	Mailing Address	8
	Clothing	9
	Weather	9
	Cultural Exchange	9
	Arrival in the United States	9
	Reporting Procedures	10
	Bilingual Dictionary	11
CHAPTER 5	<i>ADMINISTRATION</i>	
	Bachelor and Family (Accommodations)	12
	Mess Facilities	12
	Medical Care	13
	Identification Card	13
	Finances	13
	Legal Assistance	14
	Parachute Jumps	14
CHAPTER 6	<i>ACADEMIC INFORMATION</i>	
	General	15
	Class Organization	15
	Absences from Class	15
	Academic Reports and Grades	15
	Training Schedule	16
	Manuals	16
	Library	16
CHAPTER 7	<i>GENERAL INFORMATION</i>	
	Officer's Club	17
	Safeguarding Valuables	17
	Automobiles	17
	Sponsorship Program	18
	Social Customs	18
	Transportation	19
	Civilian Purchases	19

INTRODUCTION

This guide is intended to assist you during your period of resident instruction at the United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Please keep this guide as a reference for any problem or situation that you might encounter. Additional information will be provided during your orientation briefings that will also be important.

CHAPTER 1

HISTORY

1951- The United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School dates back to 1950, when the United States Army developed the Psychological Warfare (PSYWAR) Division in DA. Psychological Warfare training was started in the spring of 1951; and a faculty was collected at the Army General School, Fort Riley, KS, to start the world's first formal school of military propaganda.

1952- In April 1952, the PSYWAR training activities at Fort Riley were transferred to Smoke Bomb Hill, Fort Bragg, NC, for the provision of unit training, supervision and facilities. A new activity, the Psychological Warfare Board, was created. The board was designed to evaluate and test new PSYWAR equipment and techniques. The PSYWAR School was established 22 October 1952 by DA General Orders 92.

1956- On December 1956, the title was re-designated the U.S. Army Special Warfare School by authority of DA General Orders 53. The School was given additional responsibility for developing doctrine techniques and training and instructing personnel in Special Forces (SF) and Psychological Operations (PSYOP).

1960- In 1960, the School was expanded to assume the additional task of preparing doctrine techniques and instruction for training personnel in counterinsurgent operations.

1962- Effective 15 January 1962, the School was established as a class I activity directly under the jurisdiction of the Commanding General, U.S. Continental Army Command (CONARC). The Third U.S. Army provided administrative support. The action was ordered by DA General Orders 2.

1969- On 10 January 1969, the School was again expanded and provisionally designated the Institute for Military Assistance. The Institute assumed the task of developing tactics and techniques; training and instructing selected students in the field of military assistance operations; and providing enlisted military occupational specialty (MOS) and advanced individual training (AIT) for personnel from SF units in infiltration and exfiltration techniques, employing high altitude-low opening (HALO) parachuting, and underwater operations equipment.

1969- In a message dated 16 May 1969, DA changed the title to the U.S. Army Institute for Military Assistance (USAIMA).

1971- The U.S. Army Civil Affairs School and community were moved from Fort Gordon, GA, 15 September 1971, and were assigned to USAIMA by Third U.S. Army General Orders 195.

1972- On 1 April 1972, Third U.S. Army General Orders 271 discontinued the TDA of the Civil Affairs School and made it an integral part of USAIMA.

1973- During 1973, the reorganization of the U.S. Army Continental United States (CONUS) created an expanded role for USAIMA. It was assigned to the new U.S. Army Training Doctrine Command (TRADOC) and assumed the mission and functions of the Combat Developments Command Special Operations Agency (CDSOA).

1973- The Civil Affairs School and the Military Advisory School were combined 1 October 1973 to form the Civil Affairs and Security Assistance School (CASAS). This was confirmed by TRADOC General Orders 205 effective 1 November 1973. This brought about the establishment of three separate schools within USAIMA – the Civil Affairs and Security Assistance School, the Special Forces School (SFS), and the PSYOP School.

1976- On 7 July 1976, USAIMA was reorganized in accordance with the School Model 76 TDA document as directed by TRADOC message 29 March 1976. In planning for reorganization, an adherence to the inviolate principle of separating the training developer, the trainer, and the training analyzer and evaluator was used to closely parallel the School Model 76. The CASAS and the PSYOP School were combined to form the School of International Studies (SIS). The SFS was not affected by the reorganization.

1982- On 1 June 1982, the Chief of Staff of the Army (CSA) approved the separation of USAIMA and the 1st Special Operations Command (SOCOM). The directives established USAIMA as an independent TRADOC activity under the name U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center (PROV) (USAJFKSWC), effective 1 June 1983.

1982- By 31 December 1982, USAIMA had graduated a total of 110,833 students; this figure included 40,883 officers and civilians, 8,252 allies, and 61,698 enlisted personnel.

1983- Effective 1 October 1983, designation of "Provisional" was officially removed from USAJFKSWC.

1985- On 1 October 1985, USAJFKSWC was provisionally reorganized as the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School *USAJFKSWCS). The major changes of the reorganization were the establishment of six training departments in lieu of two schools (SIS and SFS). The training department's were Special Forces: Special Operations Advanced Skills; Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE) , Terrorism Counteraction; Foreign Area Officer; Civil Affairs (CA); and PSYOP.

1987- On 19 June 1987, General Orders 35 established the U.S. Army Special Branch as a separate career branch. The activation ceremony was held 11 September 1987, at the Special Warfare Memorial Plaza, USAJFKSWCS.

1989- On 8 June 1989, the USAJFKSWCS was restructured along HQ, TRADOC School Model 89 guidelines. Major changes were:

- (a) The establishment of a Training Group Command.
- (b) The establishment of three training battalions and one support battalion in lieu of the 1st Special Warfare Training Battalion and seven training departments (SF, Special Operations Advanced Skills, SERE, Civil Affairs, PSYOP, Foreign Area Officer, and Foreign Language).

1990- Department of the Army General Order 8, 20 June 1990, transferred command (less OPCON) of the USAJFKSWCS from TRADOC effective 1 December 1989.

CHAPTER 2

US Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center & School (SWCS)

1. SWCS MISSION

The School trains soldiers in the fields of foreign policy, international studies, security assistance, foreign internal defense and development, Special Forces (SF) operations, Psychological Operations (PSYOP), civil affairs operations, and low intensity conflicts. It also conducts training in code of conduct, survival and resistance, defense against propaganda, anti-terrorism, and civil-military operations during unilateral joint, and combined operations for all intensities of conflict. SWCS develops and/or conducts resident and extension training to meet individual and collective training requirements of the Armed Forces of the U.S., other departments of the U.S. Government, and foreign personnel.

The School develops operational concepts, doctrine, procedures, tactics, techniques, organization, force structure, and material systems for security assistance operations. Training also includes: foreign internal defense and development operations; SF operations; PSYOP; civil affairs operations; civil-military operations; ranger operations; special operations aviation; and survival and resistance during unilateral, joint, and combined operations for all intensities of conflict. SWCS develops and disseminates procedural guidelines for the initiation and processing of requests for security assistance training support and keeps all appropriate headquarters, commands, and agencies informed of TRADOC's capability, assets, and limitations concerning this support.

Additionally, SWCS serves as proponent agent for the SF Branch to include officers, warrant officers, and enlisted career management field 18. Serves as proponent for military free fall, Psyops Officer (CMF 37), and MOS 37F (Psyops specialist). Courses available for international military students at USAJFKSWCS are:

- a. Special Operations Detachment Offices Qualification Course (18A)**
- b. Special Operations Qualification Weapons Course (18B)**
- c. Special Operations Qualification Engineer Course (18C)**
- d. Special Operations Combat Medic (SOCM)**
- e. Psychological Operations Officer Course**
- f. Civil Affairs Course**
- g. Instructor Training Course (ITC)**
- h. Military Free Fall Parachutist Course**
- i. Military Free Fall Parachutist Jumpmaster Course**
- j. Combat Diver Qualification Course**
- k. Combat Dive Supervisor Course**

CHAPTER 3

INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STUDENT OFFICE

1. MISSION

The mission of the International Military Student Office (IMSO) is to provide advice to the commander, staff, and faculty on all matters pertaining to international military students (IMS) attending resident instruction at the United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center & School. It assists the international Military Students in all administrative, academic, personal, personnel, logistical, and financial matters.

2. FUNCTIONS

The IMSO is responsible for the International Military Students' Precourse Orientation, Informational Program, and Sponsorship Program. It renders assistance to international military students and their dependents in all matters as necessary, to include personal and social activities; housing and transportation; and problems related to adjustment and orientation.

3. SERVICES

The following are some services provided by personnel of the IMSO:

- a. Coordinate arrivals and departures for international military students at airport.
- b. Obtain billeting.
- c. Orientation of mess facilities, post and PX complexes on Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base.
- d. Procure I.D. cards and Officers' Club guest membership cards.
- e. Process departure requirements, including issuing travel tickets.
- f. Ensure proper and timely pay allowances.
- g. Assist IMS with military equipment and uniform requirements.
- h. Conduct physical training, swimming and other pre-requisite testing.
- i. Conduct English Competency Language testing.
- j. Act as liaison between the international military student and training company.

CHAPTER 4

PREPARATION AND TRAVEL

1. GENERAL

The International Military Student Office has furnished the Security Assistance Officer (SAO) in the US Embassy in your country with orientation material concerning the USAJFKSWC, military terminology, and typical U.S. expressions. In addition they have informational brochures about Fort Bragg, Fayetteville, and North Carolina.

2. INVITATIONAL TRAVEL ORDERS

Your Invitational Travel Orders (ITO) will normally be prepared in your country by the SAO. Ensure that your orders contain your complete name (spelled correctly), rank, English Comprehension Level (ECL) test results (if applicable), baggage allowances and instructional material authorizations, the exact training you will receive, and leave authorization. If there is an error in your orders, try to have it corrected before you leave your country. Plan to arrive at Fort Bragg with at least 20 copies of your Invitational Travel Orders.

If you are a qualified parachutist, ensure that your orders state “TMS is parachute qualified and authorized to participate in jumps from U.S. aircraft.” This authorization will permit you to participate in airborne operations as part of your training.

3. MAILING ADDRESS

In order to expedite your mail, please have your friends and relatives use the following correct mailing address:

YOUR RANK AND NAME
International Military Student Office
USAJFKSWCS Bldg. D-3404
Fort Bragg, North Carolina 28310
(USA)

This address may be used by your relatives and friends prior to your arrival at Fort Bragg. It generally takes 2 weeks for mail to arrive in US from overseas. Your family and friends can mail letters earlier so that they may be waiting for you when you arrive.

4. CLOTHING

- a. The normal duty uniform for all courses at Fort Bragg is the BDU or camouflage fatigues, although Class B or office uniforms are accepted in the Psychological Operations and Civil Affairs courses. Special Forces students

require at least four sets of fatigue uniforms and two pair of all leather boots. For SF graduation, a Class A uniform is required. During your course, the international military students will be honored at a reception hosted by the Commander, USAJFKSWCS. The Class A is worn for this official social function. Casual or informal clothing is also required. While at Fort Bragg, you will have the opportunity to travel to many local areas on informational tours and to speak to civilians.

- b. United States Army Personnel at Fort Bragg wear the winter uniform the third Monday in October to the first Sunday preceding the first Monday in April. The summer uniform is worn from the First Monday in April until the Sunday preceding the third Monday in October.
- c. Organizational equipment such as rucksacks, pistol belts, sleeping bags, etc. will be issued to students if they are required for training. International Military Students may purchase individual military clothing (including uniforms) from the Military Clothing Sales Store.
- d. On the sixth floor of Hardy Hall there are laundry facilities and less than a ten minute walk from billeting there is a dry cleaners/laundry.

5. WEATHER

The temperature extremes at Fort Bragg vary from cold (-11 C) to very hot (40 C). You should bring uniforms and civilian clothing appropriate to the period of your residence at the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center & School. A raincoat is a necessary item and heavy coats are needed during November through early March.

Average Temperature Ranges in Centigrade for Fort Bragg, N.C.

	<u>LOW</u>	<u>HIGH</u>
January – March	-11	26
April – June	10	35
July – September	20	40
October – December	0	36

6. CULTURAL EXCHANGE

International Military Students are usually asked to make a 50-minute presentation about their country during their course of study at USAJFKSWCS. It is suggested that you bring pictures, photographic slides, maps, artwork, or other items characteristic of your country to aid in your presentation. Discussion about your country should be in the nature of geography, culture, religion, form of government, etc. Frequently students will be asked to address civilian community organizations as well as military audiences. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to promote a cultural exchange and provide an overview of our country. It is a good idea to bring items from your country such as paper money or brochures to show when you make presentations.

7. ARRIVAL

- a. Normally, the SAO or your government representative will fax or email your arrival information to the IMSO prior to the date of arrival. The SAO or your country representative should provide specific information concerning your travel requirements during your trip, such as airport taxes, use of airport transportation, etc.
- b. If for some reason, arrangements have not been coordinated by the SAO or your government OR if your travel has been delayed or changed after departing your country, you should notify the International Military Student Office by phone or fax of estimated time of arrival in Fayetteville (910-432-2125/9204 fax 910-432-7002). SWCS has a 24 hour duty officer that can relay messages to the IMSO after work hours. (910- 432- 2201)
- c. For your benefit you should familiarize yourself with U.S. custom regulations before leaving your country.
- d. It is important that you maintain an accurate record of your travel itinerary to Fort Bragg. You should note the hour of arrival and departure at all stops in local time. Keep a record of all expenses. If you use commercial bus or taxi services obtain a receipt for your fares. If, during your travels, government quarters or government messing facilities are not available, obtain a certificate of nonavailability from the local United States military authorities. Some IMS may be reimbursed for the above travel costs.

8. REPORTING PROCEDURE

Students will be met by a SWCS duty driver in military uniform when they arrive at the Grannis Field (Fayetteville-Fort Bragg) airport. If a representative of SWCS is not present upon your arrival at the local transportation terminal, telephone the following:

During Duty Hours (0800-1700 hours) – International Military Student Office
– (910) 432-2125 or (910) 432-9204

After Duty Hours – Staff Duty Officer, USAJFKSWCS
-- (910) 432-2201 or (910) 432-4404

When you telephone SWCS duty officer, be sure to identify yourself as an international military student who needs transportation to Fort Bragg. Request that the International Military Student Officer be informed of your arrival. Your billeting will have already been obtained no matter what time of the day or night you arrive. Provide the receptionists at Airborne Inn/Moon Hall with a copy of your ITO, clearly indicating to her that you are an International Military Student.

9. BILINGUAL DICTIONARY

All of the instruction at the USAJFKSWCS will be presented in English. We recommend that you bring a bilingual dictionary of your language and English. Many foreign language dictionaries are difficult to obtain in the Fort Bragg – Fayetteville area. All IMS will be issued a pocket English dictionary as well as a military dictionary to assist in training.

10. TRANSPORTATION

Fort Bragg is a very large military complex and use of an automobile is a necessity. The IMSO can not provide local transportation unless related to official functions. North Carolina accepts foreign driver's licenses; international driving licenses are also accepted. However, if the IMS purchases a car, the best license for NC insurance is the foreign drivers license since the rates are determined by years of driving experience. The IMSO will provide a translation of foreign drivers licenses. Rental cars are available; however, a major credit card or complete pre-payment is required by most companies prior to renting.

Commercial taxi service operates between Fort Bragg and Fayetteville. FAST the Fayetteville bus service, serves Fort Bragg and the Cross Creek Mall. Departure is from the street between the Main PX and Commissary. Check with the IMSO staff for costs and times.

CHAPTER 5

ADMINISTRATION

1. BACHELOR AND FAMILY ACCOMODATIONS

- a. All unaccompanied and bachelor students are billeted in the Hardy Hall Bachelor Officers' Quarters along with other U.S. soldiers/students. The price of each room is \$26 per day or approximately \$780 per month. This includes daily maid and linen services. Towels are furnished. Your quarters are located within 5 minutes walking distance of the classrooms, and Mini Post Exchange complex, which includes a cafeteria, bowling alley, bank and post office. The military dining facility is approximately a 10 minute walk from Hardy Hall.**
- b. Students who receive TLA payments from the IMSO MUST stay in Hardy Hall. IMS who do not receive US TLA payments may elect to stay off post. In order to live off post, an IMS must have transportation. The IMSO can provide several different apartment complexes that rent to IMS for short (at least 3 months) term stays. Students should speak to the IMSO staff prior to signing any lease.**
- c. Family quarters are NOT available on Fort Bragg. However, wives (no children) may stay with their husbands in Hardy Hall for an additional \$5 per day. Students attending instruction at the USAJFKSWCS for less than 6 months are discouraged from bringing their families since rentals must be obtained from the civilian community. Should you decide to bring your family it will be necessary for you to write the IMSO at least 30 days prior to your arrival. Pertinent information such as number of children and adults, duration of family's stay, number of bedrooms required, arrival date, and furnishing requirements, are essential elements of information that you should send. At the present time the monthly rent for apartments or houses for a family of four, including children, is approximately \$550. This includes complete furnishings – less linen, dishes, and some public utilities such as water, trash, etc. Electricity and telephone are generally another charge.**

2. MESS FACILITIES

- a. When pork or beef is the main meat on the menu in the Dining Facility an alternate meat is usually available if religious principles forbid eating pork or beef. Rice is served as frequently as possible. Three snack bars are located within walking distance of the BOQ as alternatives to eating at the Dining Facility.**
- b. Officers are required to pay for all meals as consumed. Field training facilities provide both hot meals and field meals (MRE's) that must also be paid for as eaten. The cost for meals consumed in the field is the same as the**

cost of eating in a dining facility. Money will be collected after the different field phases.

3. MEDICAL CARE

- a. The type of medical care authorized is indicated on each IMS's ITO. International military students will be furnished medical and emergency dental care on the same basis as U.S. soldiers. Generally, IMS will not be responsible for their medical charges except for food when admitted to the hospital. Students with a serious disease or chronic condition will be hospitalized until the illness is controlled enough to permit safe return to their home country. Dependent medical care is indicated on the sponsors' ITO and generally it is the responsibility of the IMS to pay for all services, including emergency medical care. Dental care is not available for dependents.
- b. The proper procedure for receiving medical attention (sick call) is to report to IMSO prior to the first class of the day. Sick call is from 0630 to 0730 daily at Clark Medical Clinic. A member of the staff will escort the student to the dispensary to ensure expeditious assistance.
- c. If a student becomes ill or injured during class, he should report immediately to the class leader and ask for assistance. The IMSO will be notified, especially if the IMS is taken to the hospital.
- d. In all of the above cases, international military students not placed on bed rest must return to class.

4. IDENTIFICATION CARD

During your in-processing at IMSO you will be issued a military identification card (ID card) which will identify you as a bona fide guest of the U.S. and enable you to patronize all military facilities such as the commissary, post exchange, theaters, hospital, etc. IMS should ALWAYS carry this card. This card will be valid for the duration of your stay in the U.S. Authorized dependents will also be issued an ID card.

5. FINANCES

For those students who will be paid a living allowance by the U.S. government, you will receive a check payment or automatic deposit payment processed by the IMSO. Your ITO will be the basis for authorized allowances. The IMSO pays \$51 per day: \$26 per day for

billeting and \$25 per day for expenses. Each IMS is responsible for paying billeting and meal bills.

IMS who receive payments from their countries or from their Embassy in Washington, DC have the same responsibilities of paying for billeting and meal bills.

Local banking facilities are available. The IMSO staff will assist you with establishing your account.

6. LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Legal assistance and advice is available to all international military students if required. You should first notify the International Military Student Officer as to the nature of the problem. He/she will obtain an appointment for you.

7. PARACHUTE JUMPS

- a. Only airborne qualified students will be permitted to participate in airborne operations while at the USAJFKSWCS. A statement verifying that you are airborne qualified and have permission to jump, must be on your ITO.**
- b. Officers attending the Special Forces courses and the Special Operations Combat Medic course are required to be parachutist qualified and must jump as part of the instruction.**
- c. All international military students who complete a parachute jump while at the USAJFKSWCS will be awarded the U.S. Army Parachutist Badge equivalent to the rating they hold in their country as well as a certificate authorizing the award.**
- d. International military students may participate only in those airborne operations that are a part of their program of instruction. Extracurricular jumping is not authorized, special permission must be obtained from the International Military Officer for jumps not related to instruction.**

CHAPTER 6

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

1. GENERAL

- a. As a student at the United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, you will receive instruction in English with U.S. students of comparable rank. You will study the same material, participate in the same practical exercises, and take the same examinations. IMS must meet the same graduation criteria as US students.
- b. Your instructors and fellow students will be eager to help you in every way possible. All will be interested in you and your country. Many international military students have developed fine friendships from acquaintances they have made at Fort Bragg and the Fayetteville area.

2. CLASS ORGANIZATION

The senior U.S. officer in your class will normally be appointed class leader. He is in charge of the class from the time it forms for the first period of instruction until it is dismissed at the end of the day. The class leader is also responsible for the class attendance reports that are submitted daily. As a student in the class you will be expected to adhere to the same requirements as those that apply to the U.S. students. These include but are not limited to: promptness to class, physical training, homework, practical exercises, correct uniform, equipment, and study materials.

3. ABSENCE FROM CLASS

While you are attending a course of instruction at the United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, it is necessary that you attend all scheduled classes unless you have been excused by the International Military Student Officer. You will normally be excused for illness, serious emergencies, or for administrative reasons.

4. ACADEMIC EVALUATION REPORTS AND GRADES

- a. All international military students will be allowed more time to complete their major examinations as that given to U.S. students, although the IMS must sometimes request this. Bilingual dictionaries may be used during this period. Grades are awarded on the same basis as those given U.S. students.
- b. An academic evaluation report at the end of the course is rendered on all U.S. and international military students. Your report will be sent to the SAO or U.S. Embassy representative in your country who will forward it to your Ministry of Defense.

- c. In each Special Forces, Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations courses a *Distinguished International Graduate* plaque is presented at the end of the course to the international military student who attains a combination of academic and leadership skills. This is not solely dependent on highest academic grades. In addition, other recognition such as a letter from the Commanding General may also be presented to them.

5. TRAINING SCHEDULE

The weekly training schedule contains information as to date, time, place of instruction, and subject. It also includes type of instruction, references and uniform. It is published by the training company for student information and compliance and serves as a guide in budgeting study time. Normally the duty hours for students are 0745-1645 hours, Monday through Friday.

During inprocessing, the IMSO will also publish a daily training schedule. IMS should not independently plan activities during the in-processing time as both workdays and evenings are used.

6. MANUALS

Training manuals and military texts are furnished without cost to you. All international military students may keep the instruction material issued to them. The International military Student Office is not authorized to furnish additional manuals. The IMSO will ship these manuals, dictionaries and other training documents to the US embassy in your country.

7. LIBRARY

The Marquat Library of U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School, located in Special Operations Academic Facility (SOAF), is for the use of staff, faculty, and students of the Center and School. Student requirements are given priority. The library contains books and other research material for all courses given at the Center and School, including the latest periodicals. The library is operated by a professional staff that assists students in finding materials and aids students in their research.

CHAPTER 7

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. OFFICER CLUB/NCO CLUB

The Fort Bragg Officer's Officers Club and NCO clubs offers a variety of activities. There are four NCO annexes in addition to the main club. As an international military student you will be given a guest membership in the International Military Student Office at no expense to you.

2. SAFEGUARDING YOUR VALUABLES

It is recommended that you neither carry on your person nor keep large amounts of money in your room. Commercial banking facilities are available within walking distance of the BOQ. It is advised that you take advantage of this facility to avoid loss and the resultant financial hardship. Items of high value should be stored under double lock. The desk at Moon Hall has safety deposit boxes available. Do not leave your room door unlocked or give anyone else your key.

3. PURCHASING AUTOMOBILES

The cost of a reliable used automobile is approximately \$1500-\$2000. The IMSO will actively assist you in purchasing a car. If you plan on purchasing an automobile after arriving at Fort Bragg, you must have the following:

- (1) A valid driver's license. Your country's driving license is the best but International driver's licenses are accepted.
- (2) Adequate car insurance as required in North Carolina. Average cost of \$190 per six months. (North Carolina Law requires that before obtaining a driver's license, you must obtain car insurance). An international driver's license alone cannot be used as proof of driving experience and will result in higher insurance premiums.

After finding a car and prior to purchasing it, you must have a qualified mechanic check it out. The IMSO will assist in finding a mechanic who will check the car for no charge. If the car is determined to be in good condition, the IMSO will assist in the purchase. After purchasing the vehicle and obtaining sufficient insurance you must:

- (1) Obtain NC car insurance. Cost is approximately \$190 for 6 months.
- (2) Register the vehicle with local civilian authorities and purchase a license plate for the automobile. Cost is approximately \$150 and is based on the average cost of a vehicle of that make and model year, not on the actual purchase price.

- (3) Your vehicle must be registered with the Fort Bragg Vehicle Registration office. This requires a valid drivers license, proof of insurance and NC vehicle registration.
- (4) Read the “North Carolina Refresher Driver Handbook” which can be obtained at the IMSO office.

4. SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

- a. The goal at SWCS is to provide each international military student attending training with at least two sponsors. One sponsor will be a US classmate from your course and the other will be a “civilian” sponsor. They are volunteers and have agreed to participate in this program.
- b. The purpose of the Sponsorship program is to ASSIST the international military student in adjusting to life in the U.S. and in the military training. Sponsors, especially class sponsors, are not your tutor or responsible for your personal needs, such as daily transportation. This program is important because it ensures that each IMS has at least one person who will assist in the social and cultural aspects of the student’s life. Your sponsors (and their family) will hopefully provide the hospitality essential to creating a warm relationship between respective members of the various armed forces.
- c. It is the responsibility of the IMS to make sure that proper conduct with sponsors is always maintained. Cultural exchange is a two way street. It is a good idea to be slow to take offense in situations where the US sponsor may not even be aware of a problem. Always try to talk about a perceived problem. If difficulties continue, please speak to the IMSO staff. Sometimes changes will be better for all involved.

5. SOCIAL CUSTOMS

- a. IMS who are formally invited to social functions should send a reply indicating whether or not they will attend. This is a mandatory when the letters “RSVP” appear. Some invitations will only require an answer to the invitation if you cannot attend. This type of invitation will have the word “REGRETS” in the lower left hand corner, and you need only answer if you cannot attend the social function. This may be done personally by sending a short letter or by telephone. Every effort should be made to arrive at the time stated on the invitation since your presence is expected at that time. If, however, an invitation reads (for example), “Cocktails for 1700 to 1900 hours,” this means that you may arrive any time after 1700 hours but you must be sure to leave no later than 1900 hours.
- b. In an informal social contact with an American, such as dining out in a restaurant or going to a movie theater together, it is normally expected that

each individual pay for himself. Sometimes the American might say that he will “treat.” This means he desires you to be his guest and that he will pay for you. It is customary, however, if you extend your invitation, you pay for both you and your guest.

- c. Under all circumstances if an individual accepts an invitation for a social engagement, he should make every effort to attend. If for some unforeseen reason he cannot, it is his responsibility to inform the host as soon as possible. Always make sure you have the correct name of the individual who has invited you, their phone number and address of the activity.

7. CIVILIAN PURCHASES

- a. The international military student is advised to talk to an experienced friend before making major purchases from civilian stores. This will often prevent a delay or the purchase of unsatisfactory articles as a result of misunderstanding of sales literature or a sales contract.
- b. Always investigate the type and amount of service available for the article purchased. It is wise to know whether or not service and parts can be obtained in your country. In addition, some guarantees only authorize repair or replacement by the store from which the article was purchased. This should be known before purchase.
- c. If purchasing electrical appliances, make certain the article will work on the electrical current that is standard in your country. Check the voltage and cycles. In some cases, manufacturers furnish transformers that will permit the appliance to operate on either 110 or 220 volts. Most small electrical appliances in the United States are designed to operate on 110 volts, or 60 cycle current.
- d. It is advisable to arrange for the packing, crating, and shipment of articles at the time of purchase.